



SAMPLE SCHOOL/HOME NEWSLETTER INSERT

Seniors in the class of 2004 will be the first California public school students who must pass a High School Exit Examination (HSEE) to receive a high school diploma. This new graduation requirement was authorized by state law last April (Senate Bill 2, Statutes of 1999). The purpose of the HSEE will be to:

- help improve student achievement in high school
- make sure that graduates meet identified state content standards in reading, writing, and mathematics

The HSEE will be administered for the first time in 2000–2001. Only students in grade 9 may volunteer to take the test at that time. It will not be required. Beginning 2001–2002, students in grade 10 will be required to take the exam.

Testing dates for the HSEE will be designated each year by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Results of the exam will be returned to students within eight weeks of each administration. Students will have many opportunities to retake any portion of the exam previously not passed. Beginning in 2004, students must pass all portions of the HSEE to receive their graduation diploma.

We will continue to keep parents and students informed as more is known about the content and format of this important examination. A description of the test and the testing dates for 2000–2001 will be distributed to parents of all students in grade 9 by next fall. Additional information about the HSEE is posted on the California Department of Education website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/cilbranch/sca/hsee/hsee.html> (Internet).

For questions about the HSEE, contact _____.
(district and/or school contact)